

Remarks

The intent of the markings on the PTO 1449 Paper No. 7 attached to the Action is unclear. A clear indication of consideration of all the references is requested.

Other information Disclosure Statements of January 8 and 12, 2002, were also received by the Patent Office January 31, 2002, as shown by the attached copies of these Information Disclosure Statements and their postcard receipts. The references from these Information Disclosure Statements also require consideration.

A new Abstract is attached.

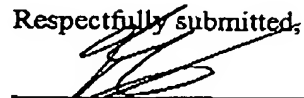
Claim 4 is amended to traverse the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, that does not affect patentability or, therefore, invoke any present Festo decision.

New claims to the same invention are added.

The rejection of any of these claims under 35 USC 102 or 103 for anticipation or obviousness from the cited Chevalier, et al. patent alone or in combination is traversed on the much earlier filing date of the present application. Attention is directed in this regard to the attached copy of the Preliminary Amendment of March 20, 2002, and its filing receipt. These show a US filing date for this case in 1998 (and earlier PCT and FI dates) while the Chevalier, et al. patent has no priority date before 1999.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP COPY

1. (amended) A pipe made of several different materials by continuous extrusion, [characterized in that] wherein the innermost layer is a plastic layer [(15)], outside of which there is an inner electrode layer [(32c)], outside of which there is an insulating layer [(32b)], outside of which there is an outer electrode layer [(32A)].
2. (amended) A pipe according to claim 1 for conducting gas indoors, [characterized in that] wherein the electrode layers [(32a. 32c)] are connected electrically in such a way that the perforation of the electrode layers [(32a. 32c)] brings about an alarm.
3. (amended) A pipe according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the electrode layers [(32a. 32c)] are connected electrically in such way that a strain resulting from the loading of the pipe produces a warning signal.
4. (amended) [A] in a pipe according to claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the pipe is used as a ventilation or a soil and waste pipe [and that], the improvements comprising noise detecting means and counter-wave producing means, wherein the electrode layers [(32a. 32c)] are connected electrically in such a way that the outer surface of the pipe reproduces a sound which is

opposite to the signal measured from the inside of the pipe so that the counter-wave produced in the outer electrode layer [(32a)] muffles [the] noise occurring inside the pipe.